

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listing of claims in this application.

Claims 1-35 (Canceled).

36. (Previously presented) A device as set forth in claim 40, further comprising an air vent located downstream from said flow measuring element, wherein said air vent has an opening surface area of less than about fifty percent of an opening surface area of said sub-passage outlet.

37. (Previously presented) A device as set forth in claim 40, further comprising an air vent located upstream from said flow measuring element.

38. (Previously presented) A device as set forth in claim 37, wherein a ratio between an opening surface area of the said air vent and a sectional surface area of said sub-passage is less than about 1:10.

39. (Previously presented) A device as set forth in claim 40, wherein said sub-passage has an outer wall, wherein said outer wall comprises at least one groove such that foreign matter in the air flow does not interfere with said flow measuring element.

40. (Previously presented) An air flow measuring device comprising:

a module housing supported cantilever-like in an area where air flow is to be measured, wherein said module housing further comprises:

at least one electrical circuit incorporated in a portion thereof;

a sub-passage through which at least a part of the air flow to be measured is introduced, said sub-passage having an inlet and an outlet, wherein said sub-passage has a curved portion that deflects part of the air flow; and

a flow measuring element located downstream of the curved portion as viewed in the part of the air flow introduced in the sub-passage, with the location of said flow measuring element relative to said curved portion being such that particles in said air flow do not interfere with said flow measuring element, and wherein said flow measuring element is electrically connected to the portion of the module housing where the electrical circuit is incorporated, and,

wherein the inlet of the sub-passage is located upstream of the flow measuring element in view of the air-flow, wherein a part of the air-flow is led by the curved portion to the portion of the module housing where the electrical circuit is incorporated.

41. (Previously presented) An air flow measuring device comprising:

a module housing defining a sub-passage through which a part of an air flow to be measured is introduced,

said sub-passage having an inlet and an outlet;

said sub-passage having a curved part, the air flow being deflected by the curved part, and

a flow measuring element located downstream of the curved part in the sub-passage in view of the part of the air flow to be measured, wherein said curved part has a surface part to which inertia is applied by the part of the air flow to be measured and which is smoothly extended to the outlet thereof.

42. (Currently amended) A device as set forth in claim 41, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a grooved surface part is located on an outer peripheral surface side of the sub-passage in the curved part.

43. (Previously presented) A device as set forth in claim 42, further comprising an air vent downstream of the flow measuring element, said air vent having an opening surface area of less than about fifty percent of an opening surface area of said sub-passage outlet.

44. (Currently amended) A device as set forth in claim~~[[43]]~~ 49, further comprising an air vent located upstream from the flow measuring element.

45. (Previously presented) A device as set forth in claim 44, wherein a ratio between an opening surface area of said air vent and a sectional surface area of the sub-passage is less than about 1 : 10.

46. (Previously presented) A device as set forth in claim 41, wherein said sub-passage has an outer wall, wherein said outer wall comprises at least one groove such that foreign matter in the air flow does not interfere with said flow measuring element.

47. (Currently amended) A device as set forth in claim 40, wherein an inclined surface and an air vent are provided in the curved portion ~~within a plane of optical projection of~~ approximately perpendicular to the inlet of the sub-passage.

48. (Currently amended) A device as set forth in claim 41, wherein an inclined surface and an air vent are provided in the curved part ~~within a plane of optical projection of~~ approximately perpendicular to the inlet of the sub-passage.

49. (Previously presented) An air-flow measuring device comprising:

a module housing supported in a main passage through which fluid to be measured flows;

a sub-passage defined in the module housing and having an inlet and an outlet, for passing therethrough a part of the fluid to be measured, having a curved part in an intermediate portion of the sub-passage;

a measuring element provided in the sub-passage between the outlet and the curved part, and

an electric circuit incorporated in the module housing, and electronically connected to the measuring element,

wherein a part of the module housing is inserted and cantilever-like supported in the main passage through which the fluid to be measured flows, so as to arrange the sub-passage and the electric circuit in the main passage, the inlet is located nearer to the distal end of the inserted part of the module housing as viewed in the direction of insertion of the module housing, than the measuring element, and the fluid having passed through the inlet is led to the proximal end part of the inserted part of the module housing by the curved part.